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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/807,983

Applicant(s)

ASAKAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Tran A. Quoc

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6, 7 and 17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 8-16, and 18-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

This is a **Final** rejection in response to Applicant's Remarks filed on 10/24/2007. Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Claims 6, 7, and 17 are withdrawn from examination due to Non-elected claims, Claims 1, 8 and 12 are independent claims. Effective filing date is 03-24-2004, priority date 03-28-2003 (Assignee IBM).

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

*(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.*

**Claims 1-5, 8-16, and 18-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Maeda** et al. US 20010054049A1 filed 12-19-2000 (hereinafter Maeda), in view of **Chen** et al. US 20020078097A1 filed 04-18-2001 (hereinafter Chen).

Regarding **independent claim 1**, Maeda teaches:

**An information processing apparatus comprising means for creating a digest of a document a layout of which is determined, when said layout being too large to fit in a display screen of a display**

**device or when a document reader requires said document to be zoomed for reading characters displayed on the display device, the document including a plurality of regions, each region including one or more display elements, the means for creating comprising:**

(See Maeda fig. 1 and para 13-15, discloses an information processing terminal, includes web browser, and display controller (for analyzing the structure of the layout of the document, a region arrangement) to display the contents of a document using a selected display condition, such as a desired font size or a desired line space or character space, while preserving the layout of the document as well as to edit the contents of the document, when it is enlarged and displayed, so that important information in the document survives.

Also, see Maeda para 89, disclose the web browser 10 that employs the DOM tree automatically converts the HTML document into the tree, the obtained tree structure is merely be fetched by the layout structure analyzer 21.

Using the broadest reason able interpretation, the examiner reads the claimed **creating a digest of a document** as equivalent to analyzing the structure of the layout of the document, a region arrangement as taught by Maeda, and also see applicants' current disclosure at para 6, "method for creating a digest of the web page, in which a layout of the Web page is automatically analyzed based on tags of an HTML (refer to Patent Document 1),")

**means for selecting the display elements based on display priorities of the display elements, and for deciding all of selected display**

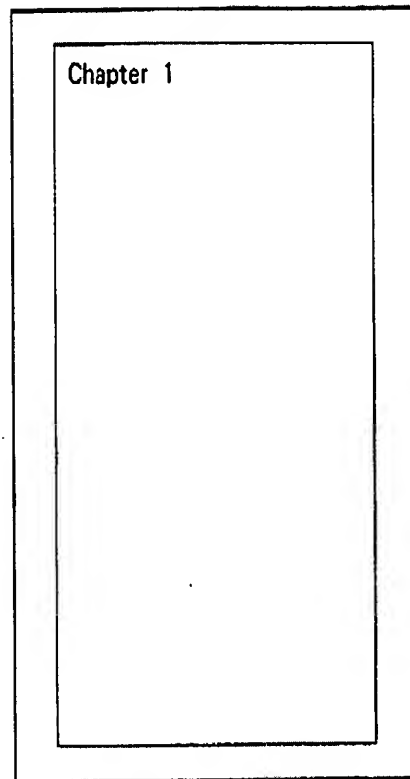
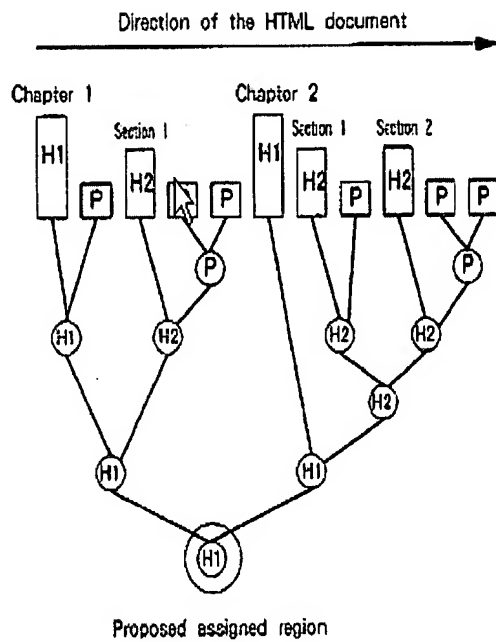
**elements as a display content of a digest screen under a condition  
where a total display area of all of the selected display elements  
does not exceed a required display area;**

(See Maeda para 106, provides means to display the contents of a document using a selected display condition.

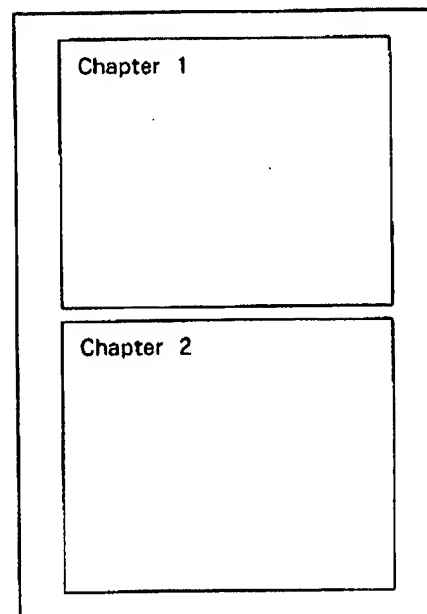
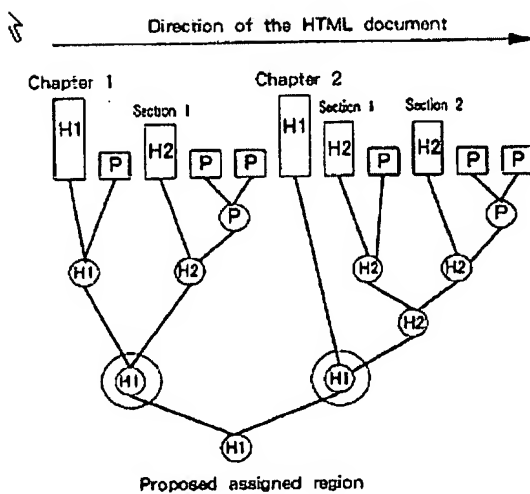
Also, see Maeda Fig. 15 and para 118, displaying all the characters in "chapter 1," which is the most important, in the contents of the HTML tag <H1> of the target node,

Also, see Maeda Fig. 16 and para 119, displaying "chapter 1" and "chapter 2," which are the most important contents of the HTML tags <H1> of the two target nodes,

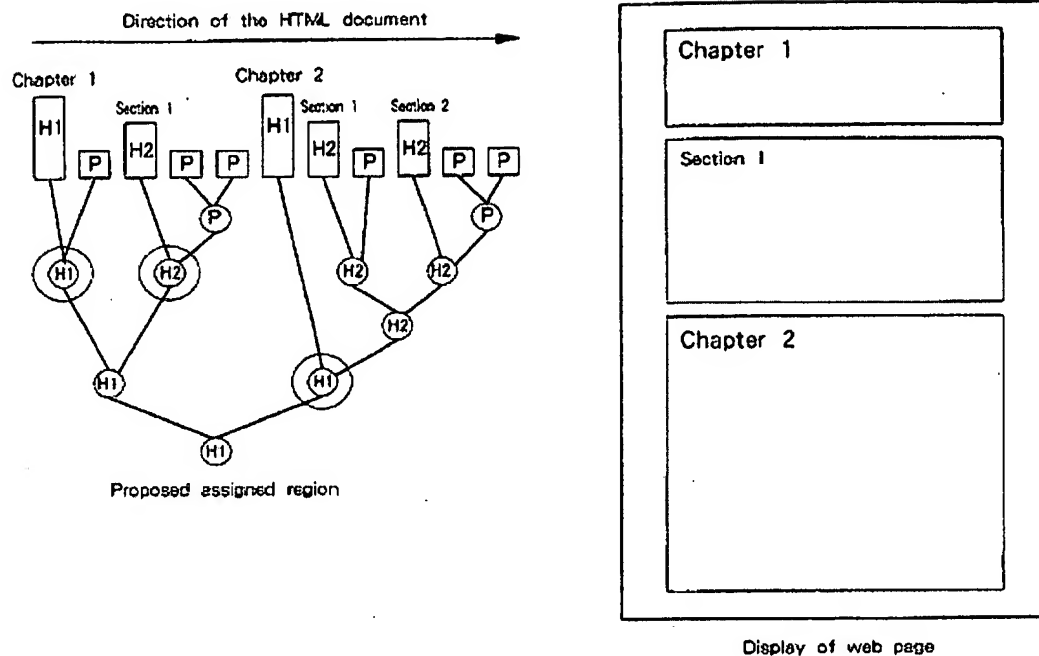
Also, see Maeda Fig. 18 and para 121, showing nodes that are currently established as assigned regions, and the rectangular areas that are represented by the nodes. By referring to FIG. 18, the layout of the web page is determined using three assigned regions,



Display of web page



Display of web page



Also, see Maeda para 81, discloses the elements wherein a display condition designated by a user. As a result, there is no deterioration of the layout of the web page.

Also, see Maeda fig. 1 and para 13-15, discloses an information processing terminal, includes web browser, and display controller (for analyzing the structure of the layout of the document, a region arrangement) to display the contents of a document using a selected display condition, such as a desired font size or a desired line space or character space, while preserving the layout of the document as well as to edit the contents of the document, when it is enlarged and displayed, so that important information in the document survives. Using broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner equates the claimed **condition where a total display area of all of the**

**selected display elements does not exceed a required display area** as equivalent to display controller (for analyzing the structure of the layout of the document, a region arrangement) to display the contents of a document using a selected display condition, such as a desired font size or a desired line space or character space, while preserving the layout of the document, and Fig. 15-18 as taught by Maeda.)

**and means for ensuring access to information lost by creating the digest and ensuring said digest fits optimally on said display device.**

(See Maeda fig. 1 and para 13-15, discloses an information processing terminal, includes web browser, and display controller (for analyzing the structure of the layout of the document, a region arrangement) to display the contents of a document using a selected display condition, such as a desired font size or a desired line space or character space, while preserving the layout of the document as well as to edit the contents of the document, when it is enlarged and displayed, so that important information in the document survives.

Also, see Maeda para 81, discloses the elements wherein a display condition designated by a user. As a result, there is no deterioration of the layout of the web page.)

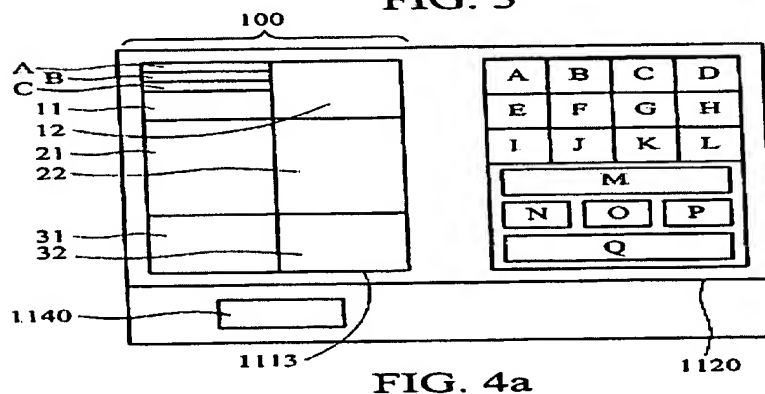
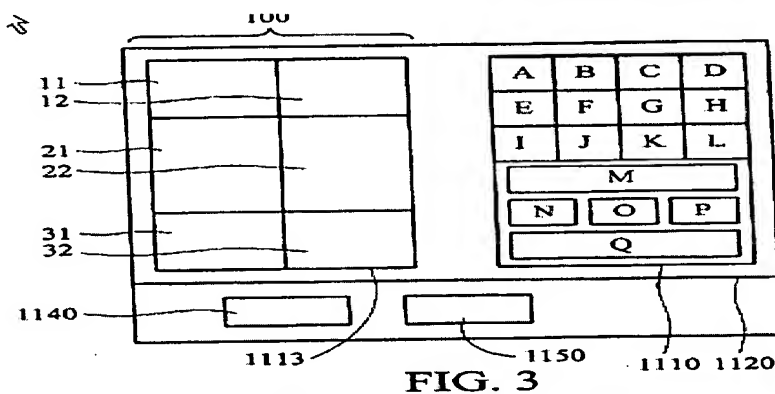
In addition, Maeda does not explicitly teach, but Chen teaches:

**means for setting a merging relationship among the regions by deciding a merging region, with which a region not being displayed on the digest screen is merged, from among regions displayed on the digest screen based on layout information for the**



**regions in the document, all of the regions being included in the document;**

(See Chen fig. 3, 4a-c and para 10-15, shows the merging process, wherein the first display area is merging with the second display area if the second display area does not contain data an intermediate data stream in name/value pair format; determining whether a third display area adjacent to the first display area in the vertical direction contains data; and determining whether a third display area adjacent to the first display area in the vertical direction contains data; and merging the first display area with the third display area if the second display area does not contain data.



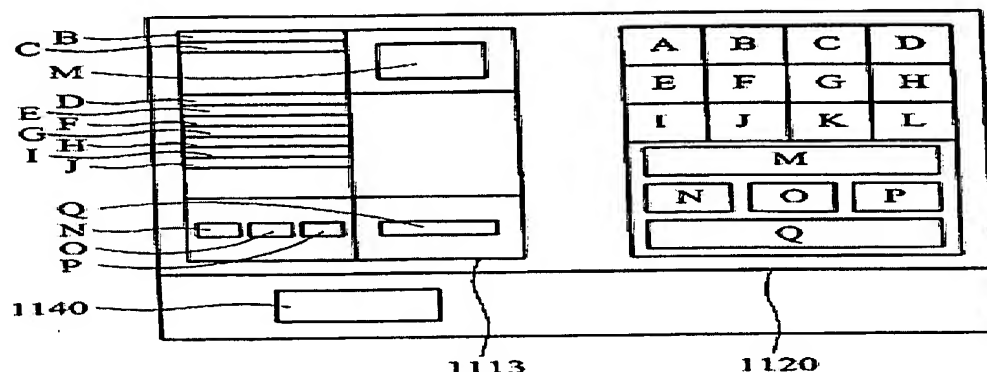


FIG. 4b

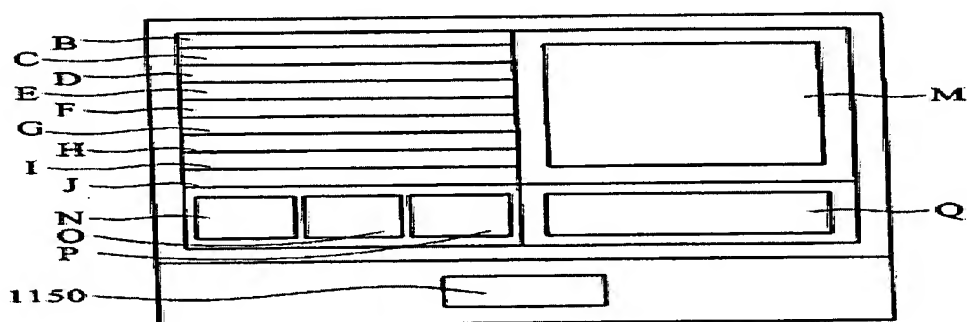


FIG. 4c

Also, see Chen para 36-51; disclose the details of the merging process of Fig. 3, and Fig. 4a-c. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, it is noted the claimed **the digest screen is merged** is the merging process (see fig. 3, 4a-c) as taught by Chen.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Maeda's information processing terminal, provides a means to display the contents of a document using a selected display condition, while preserving the layout of the document, to include a means of setting a merging relationship among the regions by deciding a merging region, with which a region not being displayed on the digest screen is merged, from among regions displayed on the digest screen based on layout information for the regions in the document, all of the

regions being included in the document as taught by Chen. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification, because Maeda and Chen are analogous art, since they are from the same field of allocating, and merging lay out of web document without deterioration of the layout of the web page, and provides the followings advantages: The contents of a document can be displayed in accordance with a desired display condition (font size, line spacing, character spacing, etc.), while the layout of the document is preserved; Further, when characters are enlarged and displayed while the layout is being preserved, the display contents can be edited without important information in the document being erased (see Maeda para 162-163).

Regarding **independent claim 8**, the rejection of claim 1 is fully incorporated.

Regarding **independent claim 12**:

is directed to a computer program code functioning to perform the method recited in Claim 1 and is similarly rejected along the same rationale.

Regarding **claims 2-3**, Chen teaches:

**means for deciding, as a display content of a detail screen, a region group including the regions displayed on the digest screen, further comprising means for creating control information for controlling a display of the detail screen, wherein the means for deciding the display content of the detail screen creates a digest of**

**the detail screen based on the control information when the region group is too large to fit in the required display area.**

(See Maeda fig. 1 and para 13-15, discloses an information processing terminal, includes web browser, and display controller (for analyzing the structure of the layout of the document, a region arrangement) to display the contents of a document using a selected display condition, such as a desired font size or a desired line space or character space, while preserving the layout of the document as well as to edit the contents of the document, when it is enlarged and displayed, so that important information in the document survives.

Also, see Maeda para 89, disclose the web browser 10 that employs the DOM tree automatically converts the HTML document into the tree, the obtained tree structure is merely be fetched by the layout structure analyzer 21.

Also, see Maeda para 81, discloses the elements wherein a display condition designated by a user. As a result, there is no deterioration of the layout of the web page.)

In addition, Maeda does not explicitly teach, but Chen teaches:

**and the region merged with the displayed regions in response to that a detail display of the displayed regions is required,**

(See Chen fig. 3, 4a-c and para 10-15, shows the merging process, wherein the first display area is merging with the second display area if the second display area does not contain data an intermediate data stream in name/value pair format; determining whether a third display area adjacent to the first display area in the vertical direction

contains data; and determining whether a third display area adjacent to the first display area in the vertical direction contains data; and merging the first display area with the third display area if the second display area does not contain data.

Also, see Chen para 36-51; disclose the details of the merging process of Fig. 3, and Fig. 4a-c.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Maeda's information processing terminal, provides a means to display the contents of a document using a selected display condition, while preserving the layout of the document, to include region merged with the displayed regions in response to that a detail display of the displayed regions is required as taught by Chen. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification, because Maeda and Chen are analogous art, since they are from the same field of allocating, and merging lay out of web document without deterioration of the layout of the web page, and provides the followings advantages: The contents of a document can be displayed in accordance with a desired display condition (font size, line spacing, character spacing, etc.), while the layout of the document is preserved; Further, when characters are enlarged and displayed while the layout is being preserved, the display contents can be edited without important information in the document being erased (see Maeda para 162-163).

Regarding **claim 4**, Maeda teaches:

**means for changing the display content of the digest screen  
based on an operation of a user.**

(See Maeda para 89, disclose the web browser 10 that employs the DOM tree automatically converts the HTML document into the tree, the obtained tree structure is merely be fetched by the layout structure analyzer 21.

Also, see Maeda para 81, discloses the elements wherein a display condition designated by a user. As a result, there is no deterioration of the layout of the web page.)

Regarding **claim 5**, Maeda teaches:

**the changing means includes means for automatically  
changing the display content of the digest screen, accompanying the  
operation of the user.**

(See Maeda para 89, disclose the web browser 10 that employs the DOM tree automatically converts the HTML document into the tree, the obtained tree structure is merely be fetched by the layout structure analyzer 21.

Also, see Maeda para 81, discloses the elements wherein a display condition designated by a user. As a result, there is no deterioration of the layout of the web page. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, it is noted the claimed **the display content of the digest screen** is the web browser 10 that employs the DOM tree

automatically converts the HTML document into the tree, the obtained tree structure is merely be fetched by the layout structure analyzer 21 as taught by Maeda.)

Regarding **claims 9-11** respectively:

the rejection of claims 2-3, and 5 respectively, and are fully incorporated.

Regarding **claims 13-15** respectively:

are directed to a computer program code functioning to perform the method recited in claims 2-3, and 5 respectively, and are similarly rejected along the same rationale.

Regarding **claim 16**:

is directed to a computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code embedded therein to perform the method recited in claim 1, and is similarly rejected along the same rational (See Maeda para 164, discloses hardware, software, or a combination of hardware and software. And also be embedded in a computer program product.)

Regarding **claim 18**:

is directed to an article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein to perform the method recited in claim 8, and is similarly rejected along the same

rational (See Maeda para 164, discloses hardware, software, or a combination of hardware and software. And also be embedded in a computer program product.)

**Regarding claim 19:**

is directed to program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform the method recited in claim 8, and is similarly rejected along the same rational (See Maeda para 164, discloses hardware, software, or a combination of hardware and software. And also be embedded in a computer program product.)

**Regarding claim 20:**

the rejections of claims 1-5 are fully incorporated, and is similarly rejected along the same rational.

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art.

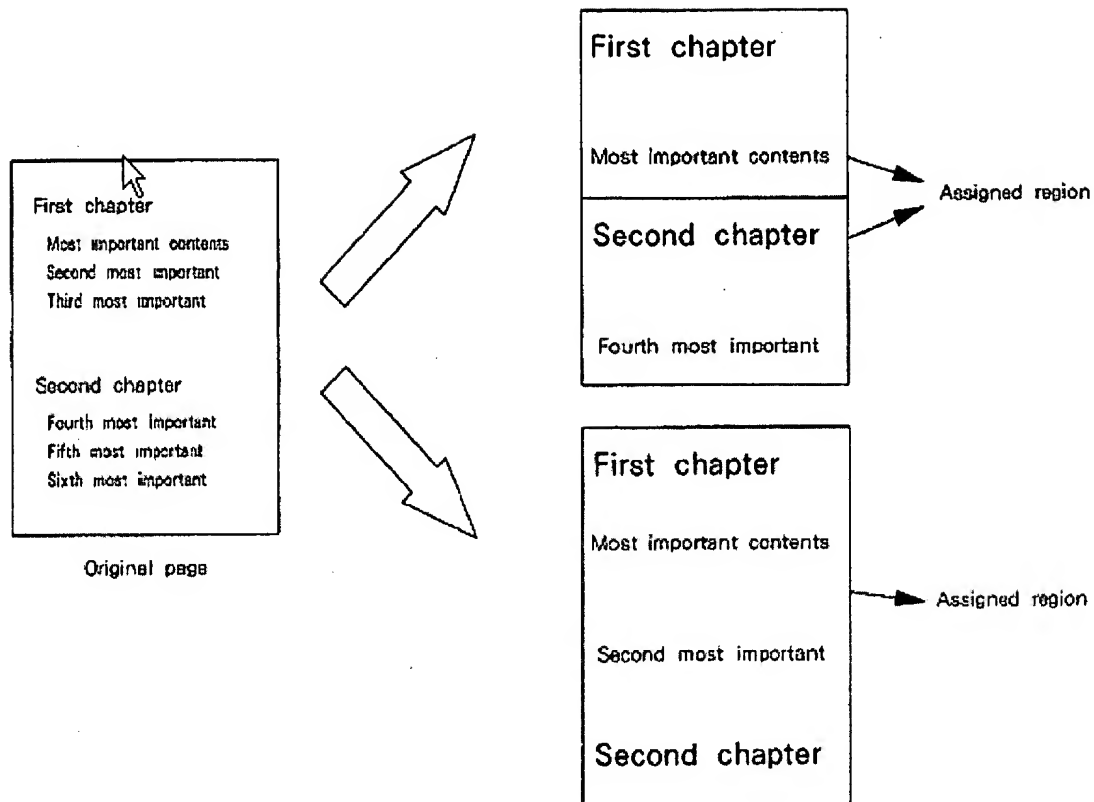
See, MPEP 2123.



***Response to Argument***

Brief description of cited prior art:

**Maeda** et al. describes the short coming of an enlarged display specifies that a display screen, using the magnification tool is used only the data in a designated small area are magnified. However, the area within which magnified data are displayed is narrow. And if the size of the magnification area is increased, a portion hidden by the magnification area is expanded, and viewing the contents of an original display screen is difficult. That is, since with the conventional techniques only one part on a display screen is enlarged, it is difficult to obtain an overview of the data and to understand the contents- See Maeda at Page 1 Para 11-12. Thus, Maeda further discloses an information processing terminal, includes web browser, and display controller (for analyzing the structure of the layout of the document, a region arrangement) to display the contents of a document **using a selected display condition**, such as a desired font size or a desired line space or character space, **while preserving the layout of the document** as well as to edit the contents of the document, **when it is enlarged and displayed**, so that important information in the document survives-See Maeda fig. 1 and para 13-15. Also Maeda further discloses the elements wherein a display condition designated by a user. As a result, there is no deterioration of the layout of the web page- See Maeda at Fig. 16 and at Para 81.



**Chen** et al. shows the merging process, wherein the first display area is merging with the second display area if the second display area does not contain data an intermediate data stream in name/value pair format; determining whether a third display area adjacent to the first display area in the vertical direction contains data; and determining whether a third display area adjacent to the first display area in the vertical direction contains data; and merging the first display area with the third display area if the second display area does not contain data- See Chen fig. 3, 4a-c and para 10-15,

Response to Arguments:

Beginning on page 2 of the Remarks (hereinafter the remarks), Applicant argues the following issues, which are accordingly addressed below.

Applicant argues claims 1-5, 8-16 and 18-20 improperly rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Maeda, in view of Chen, because of the following:

- The rejections are apparently based primarily on statements, indicating that although Maeda and Chen don't do (or allude to) the particular claim element, "it would be obvious" to do the particular claim element - See the remarks Page 3 Para 4.
- There in no digest or digest screen taught or made obvious by Maeda- element - See the remarks Pages 3 - 4.
- Maeda and Chen fail to teach:

*An information processing apparatus comprising means for creating a digest of a document a layout of which is determined, when said layout being too large to fit in a display screen of a display device or when a document reader requires said document to be zoomed for reading characters displayed on the display device, because, Maeda fig. 1 para 13-15 fail to teach the above claimed- See the remarks Pages 6-7.*

- Maeda fails to teach: *creating a digest of a document*, because Maeda's "a region arrangement" is not the same -See the remarks at Pages 7- 8 Para 1.
- Maeda fails to teach: *means for selecting the display elements based on display priorities of the display elements, and for deciding all of selected display elements as a display content of a digest screen under a condition where a total display area of all of the selected display elements does not exceed a required display area*;, because Maeda's Para 106 fig. 15 Para 118-119, 81 fig, 1 Para 13-15 fail to teach the claimed limitations " -See the remarks at Pages 8 Bottom half through Page 10 Top..
- Chen fails to teach "*merging a digest screen*", and Chen is not concerned with display of contents of a document using a selected display condition, while preserving the layout of the document, as is Maeda, so there is no reason for one skilled in the art to combine Chen with Maeda, except in an attempt to find elements of the present claims employing hindsight. Because Chen merging has no relevance to the merging of a digest screen as claimed- See the remarks Page 5, and Pages 10-12.

For purposes of responding to Applicant's argument, the examiner will assume that Applicant is arguing for the patentability of Claim 1.

- Firstly, to address the Applicant argument, the rejections are apparently based primarily on statements, indicating that although Maeda and Chen don't do (or allude to) the particular claim element, "it would be obvious" to do the particular claim element - See the remarks Page 3 Para 4.

The examiner respectfully disagrees, in response to applicant's argument that the examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971) - See the Office Action above for details.

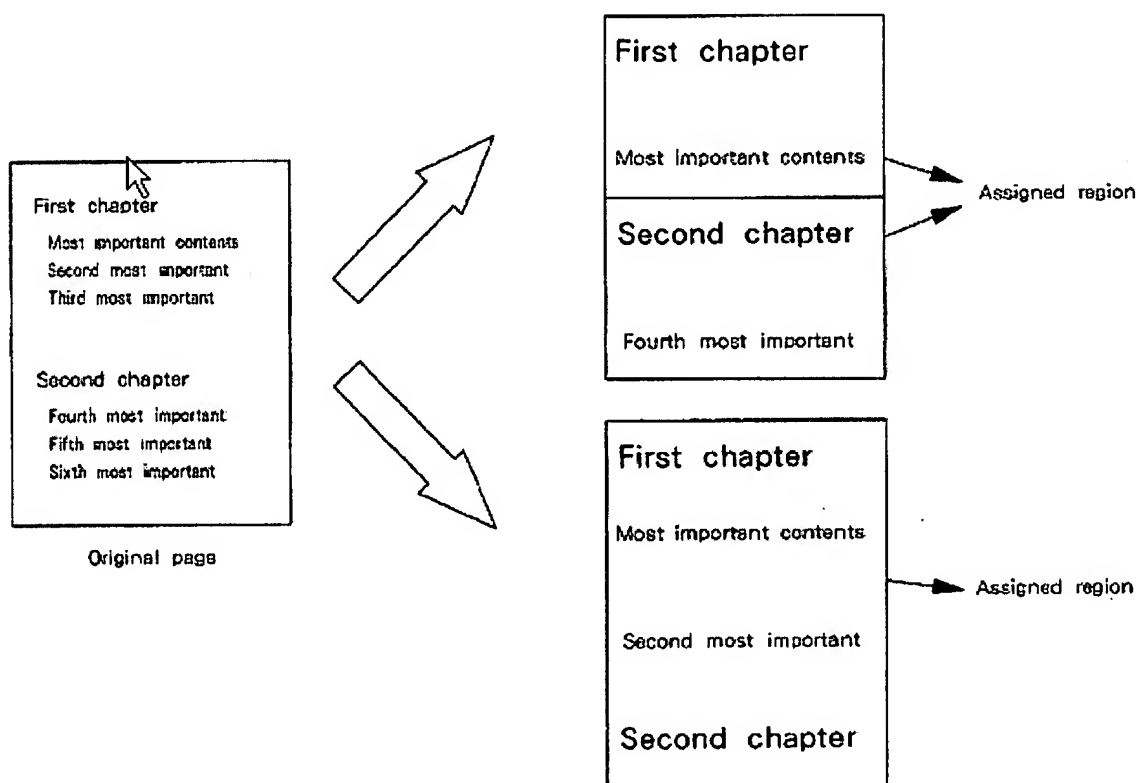
- Secondly, to address the Applicant argument, there is no digest or digest screen taught or made obvious by Maeda- element - See the remarks Pages 3 - 4.

The examiner respectfully disagrees,

As discuss above, Maeda et al. describes the short coming of an enlarged display specifies that a display screen, using the magnification tool is used only the data in a designated small area are magnified. However, the area within which magnified data are displayed is narrow. And if the size of the magnification area is increased, a portion hidden by the magnification area is expanded, and viewing the contents of an original display screen is difficult. That is, since with the conventional techniques only one part on a display screen is enlarged, it is difficult to obtain an overview of the data and to understand the contents- See Maeda at Page 1 Para 11-12. Thus, Maeda further discloses an information processing terminal, includes web browser, and display controller (for analyzing the structure of the layout of the document, a region arrangement) to display the contents of a document **using a selected display condition**, such as a desired font size or a desired line space or character space, **while preserving the layout of the document** as well as to edit the contents of the document, **when it is enlarged and displayed**, so that important information in the document survives-See Maeda fig. 1 and para 13-15. Also Maeda further discloses the elements wherein a display condition designated by a user. As a result, there is no deterioration of the layout of the web page- See Maeda at Para 81.

Also Maeda at Fig. 19 and at Page 9 Para 111 discloses the determination condition, where the screen of the web page that is finally displayed can be controlled. Referring to FIG. 19 as the size of an assigned region is reduced (the division of a rectangular area is continued as long as possible), the layout of the web page nears

that of the original, but important contents of the original page tend to be missing. While referring to FIG. 19, on a screen whereon the rectangular area is divided into many segments, the overall ratio whereat the screen is occupied by "the first chapter" and "the second chapter" is close to that for the original pages. On the other hand, if the size of an assigned region is maintained (the rectangular area is not divided into many segments), while important contents tend to be retained in a ***digest, the layout.***



This interpretation is supported by the Applicant's disclosure, which states, "a digest of a document, such as a Web page, the layout of which is predetermined by a

creator" See Applicant Specs at Page 1 Lines 5-6, and also "creating a **digest of a document the layout** of which is determined ....the **region merged with the displayed regions** ... when the **region group is too large to fit in the required display area**" See the Applicant's Specs Page 12, Lines 10-22.

Thus Maeda clearly discloses digest or digest screen, that allows display the contents of a document using a selected display condition, such as a desired font size or a desired line space or character space, while preserving the layout of the document as well as to edit the contents of the document, when it is enlarged and displayed, so that important information in the document survives.

- Thirdly, to address the Applicant argument, Maeda and Chen fail to teach:  
*an information processing apparatus comprising means for creating a digest of a document a layout of which is determined, when said layout being too large to fit in a display screen of a display device or when a document reader requires said document to be zoomed for reading characters displayed on the display device, because, Maeda fig. 1 para 13-15 fail to teach the above claimed- See the remarks Pages 6-7.*

The examiner respectfully disagrees,

In response to applicant's arguments, as discuss above and also Maeda further discloses an information processing terminal, includes web browser, and display controller (for analyzing the structure of the layout of the document, a region



arrangement) to display the contents of a document **using a selected display condition**, such as a desired font size or a desired line space or character space, **while preserving the layout of the document** as well as to edit the contents of the document, **when it is enlarged and displayed**, so that important information in the document survives-See Maeda fig. 1 and para 13-15. Also Maeda further discloses the elements wherein a display condition designated by a user. As a result, there is no deterioration of the layout of the web page- See Maeda at Para 81.

Also Maeda at Fig. 19 and at Page 9 Para 111 discloses the determination condition, where the screen of the web page that is finally displayed can be controlled. Referring to FIG. 19 as the size of an assigned region is reduced (the division of a rectangular area is continued as long as possible), the layout of the web page nears that of the original, but important contents of the original page tend to be missing. While referring to FIG. 19, on a screen whereon the rectangular area is divided into many segments, the overall ratio whereat the screen is occupied by "the first chapter" and "the second chapter" is close to that for the original pages. On the other hand, if the size of an assigned region is maintained (the rectangular area is not divided into many segments), while important contents tend to be retained in a ***digest, the layout***.

This interpretation is supported by the Applicant's disclosure, which states, "a digest of a document, such as a Web page, the layout of which is predetermined by a creator" See Applicant Specs at Page 1 Lines 5-6, and also "creating a **digest of a document the layout** of which is determined ....the **region merged with the**

**displayed regions ... when the region group is too large to fit in the required display area"** See the Applicant's Specs Page 12, Lines 10-22.

Thus Maeda clearly discloses an information processing apparatus comprising means for creating a digest of a document a layout of which is determined, when said layout being too large to fit in a display screen of a display device or when a document reader requires said document to be zoomed for reading characters displayed on the display device, when it is enlarged and displayed, so that important information in the document survives.

- Fourthly, in response to applicant's arguments, Maeda and Chen fail to teach: *creating a digest of a document*; because Maeda's "*a region arrangement*" is not the same -See the remarks at Pages 7- 8 Para 1.

The examiner respectfully disagrees,

As discuss above and also Maeda further discloses the determination condition, where the screen of the web page that is finally displayed can be controlled. Referring to FIG. 19 as the size of an assigned region is reduced (the division of a rectangular area is continued as long as possible), the layout of the web page nears that of the original, but important contents of the original page tend to be missing. While referring to FIG. 19, on a screen whereon the rectangular area is divided into many segments, the overall ratio whereat the screen is occupied by "the first chapter" and "the second chapter" is close to that for the original pages. On the other hand, if the size of an

assigned region is maintained (the rectangular area is not divided into many segments), while important contents tend to be retained in a ***digest, the layout***.

This interpretation is supported by the Applicant's disclosure, which states, "a digest of a document, such as a Web page, the layout of which is predetermined by a creator" See Applicant Specs at Page 1 Lines 5-6, and also "creating a **digest of a document the layout** of which is determined ....the **region merged with the displayed regions** ... when the **region group is too large to fit in the required display area**" See the Applicant's Specs Page 12, Lines 10-22. Thus Maeda clearly discloses creating a digest of a document.

- Fifthly, in response to applicant's arguments, Maeda fails to teach: *means for selecting the display elements based on display priorities of the display elements, and for deciding all of selected display elements as a display content of a digest screen under a condition where a total display area of all of the selected display elements does not exceed a required display area*; because Maeda's Para 106 fig. 15 Para 118-119, 81 fig. 1 Para 13-15 fail to teach the claimed limitations " -See the remarks at Pages 8 Bottom half through Page 10 Top.

The examiner respectfully disagrees,

As discuss above and also Maeda further discloses the intra-region contents determiner designates a **priority order** for control information for controlling the style of

a document, and in accordance with the priority order, determines for each portion of the document, the contents that are **to be displayed in a corresponding assigned region**. This arrangement is particularly superior, as important information is not erased, even when not all the original data can be displayed in an assigned region because enlarged characters are employed - See Maeda at Page 3 Para 60.

This interpretation is supported by the Applicant's disclosure, which states, "priority information creating means obtains display priorities for display elements included in the target regions, and creates a sequence of the display elements arrayed in order of the display priorities" See the Applicant's Specs Page 38, Lines 30-33.

Thus Maeda clearly discloses means for selecting the display elements based on display priorities of the display elements, and for deciding all of selected display elements as a display content of a digest screen under a condition where a total display area of all of the selected display elements does not exceed a required display area.

- Sixthly, in response to applicant's arguments, Chen fails to teach "*merging a digest screen*", and Chen is not concerned with display of contents of a document using a selected display condition, while preserving the layout of the document, as is Maeda, so there is no reason for one skilled in the art to combine Chen with Maeda, except in an attempt to find elements of the present claims employing hindsight, because Chen merging has no relevance to the merging of a digest screen as claimed- See the remarks Page 5, and Pages 10-12 .

The examiner respectfully disagrees,

Chen shows **the merging process**, wherein the first display area is merging with the second display area if the second display area does not contain data an intermediate data stream in name/value pair format; determining whether a third display area adjacent to the first display area in the vertical direction contains data; and determining whether a third display area adjacent to the first display area in the vertical direction contains data; and merging the first display area with the third display area if the second display area does not contain data- See Chen fig. 3, 4a-c and para 10-15,

Also, see Chen para 36-51; disclose the details of the merging process of Fig. 3, and Fig. 4a-c. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, it is noted the claimed **the digest screen is merged** is the merging process (see fig. 3, 4a-c) as taught by Chen.

In addition, for further clarification, Maeda at Fig. 19 shows the merging process of Chapter 1 and 2 from the intra-region contents determiner designates a priority order for control information for controlling the style of a document, and in accordance with the priority order, determines for each portion of the document, the contents that are to be displayed in a corresponding assigned region. This arrangement is particularly superior, as important information is not erased, even when not all the original data can be displayed in an assigned region because **enlarged characters are employed** - See Maeda at Page 3 Para 60.

This interpretation is supported by the Applicant's disclosure, which states, "merging relationship setting means sets the merging relationship among the target regions on the detail screen by use of the layout information for the target regions,

which is created by the detail screen region layout information creating means" See the Applicant's Specs Page 39, Lines 10-14. Thus Chen clearly discloses merging a digest screen.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Maeda's information processing terminal, provides a means to display the contents of a document using a selected display condition, while preserving the layout of the document, to include a means of setting a merging relationship among the regions by deciding a merging region, with which a region not being displayed on the digest screen is merged, from among regions displayed on the digest screen based on layout information for the regions in the document, all of the regions being included in the document as taught by Chen. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification, because Maeda and Chen are analogous art, since they are from the same field of allocating, and merging lay out of web document without deterioration of the layout of the web page, and provides the followings advantages: The contents of a document can be displayed in accordance with a desired display condition (font size, line spacing, character spacing, etc.), while the layout of the document is preserved; Further, when characters are enlarged and displayed while the layout is being preserved, the display contents can be edited without important information in the document being erased (see Maeda para 162-163).

Thus, Maeda and Chen, have taught all the limitation of the claimed invention, and the examiner has established "some motivation or suggestion to combine the prior art teachings.

Following KSR direction and cites evidences above, the Examiner had found that Maeda in view of Chen have taught all the limitation of the claimed invention, and the examiner has established "some motivation or suggestion to combine the prior art teachings" can be found in the prior art, the nature of the problem, or the knowledge of a person having ordinary skill in the art.

Thus claim 1 is properly rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Maeda, in view of Chen. Accordingly, Claims 8, and 12 are similarly remain rejected along the same rationale. Also, their dependent claims 2-3, 4, 9-11, 13-15, 16, 18-20 are remained rejected as well due to depends upon the rejected claims 1, 8, and 12 as cite above (see the above fore details).

In addition, the Applicant argues:

- Maeda and Chen fail to teach limitation of claim 2-3, because examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning-  
See the remarks Pages 13-15.

The examiner respectfully disagrees,

In response to applicant's argument that the examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does

not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971) - See the Office Action above for details.

- Maeda and Chen fail to teach limitation of claims 9-11, 13-15, 16, 18-19, because they are Beauregard claims not made obvious by the combined art- See the remarks Pages 13-19.

The examiner respectfully disagrees,

In response to applicant's argument that the claims 9-11, 13-15, 16, 18-19, are Beauregard claims not made obvious by the combined art. The examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon proper reasoning, as evidence Maeda and Chen, have taught all the limitation of the claimed invention, and the examiner has established "some motivation or suggestion to combine the prior art teachings, which cites above. In addition, following KSR direction and cites evidences above, the Examiner had found that Maeda in view of Chen have taught all the limitation of the claimed invention, and the examiner has established "some motivation or suggestion to combine the prior art teachings" can be found in the prior art, the nature of the problem, or the knowledge of a person having ordinary skill in the art. Thus the 103(a) rejection to claims 9-11, 13-15, 16, 18-19 is proper.



Accordingly, for at least all the above evidence, and the current rejection, therefore the Examiner respectfully maintains the rejection of claims 1-5, 8-16, and 18-20, at least at this time.

### ***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quoc A. Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-8664. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM EST.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Quoc A, Tran/  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2176  
01/05/2008

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